Serial #2651

Hold Down OPTION

MEGAFONT II

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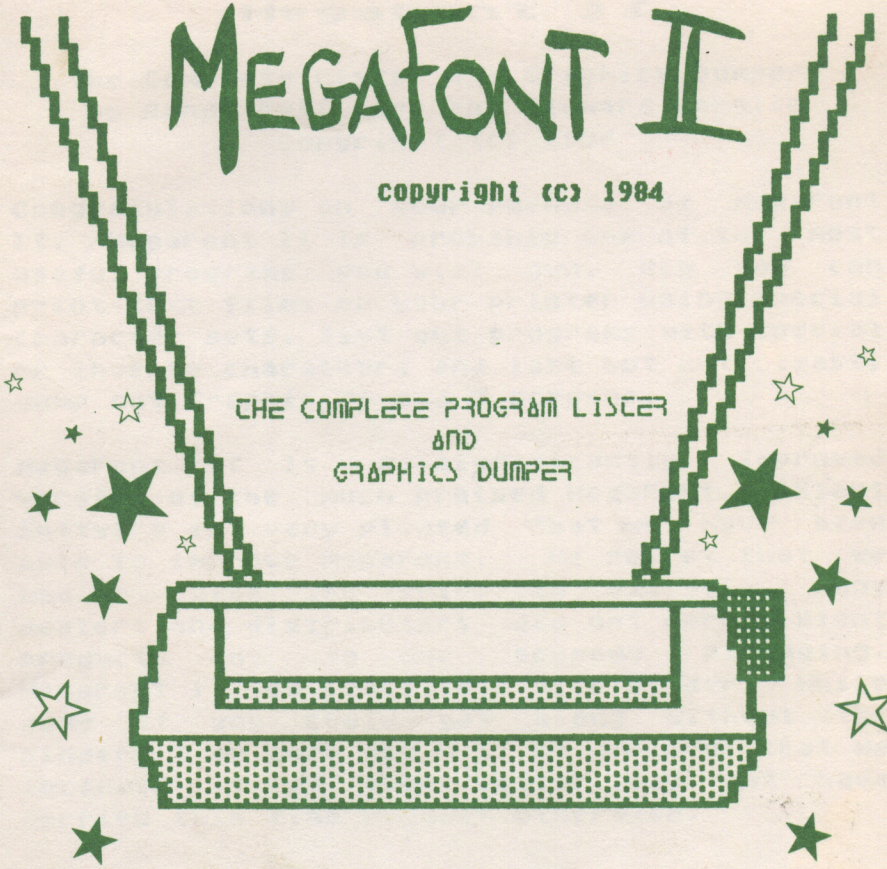

THE COMPLETE PROGRAM LISTER
AND
GRAPHICS DUMPER

written by:

RANDY DELLINGER &
RICHARD ROGNLIE

MegaFont][

The Complete Lister and Graphics Dumper
By Randy Dellinger and Richard Ronglie
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Congratulations on your puchase of MegaFont][. MegaFont][is probably one of the most useful programs you will own. Now you can print text files on your printer using special character sets, list out programs with special or inverse characters and last but not least, dump out Graphic 7+ and 8 screens.

MegaFont][is a significantly improved version of the much praised MegaFont. Xlent Software is very pleased that we have been able to improve MegaFont. We regret that we had to raise the price to $24.95. Many dealers and distributers did not carry Xlent products due to our economy packaging. MegaFont][now comes in a nice binder. While some of you could get along without the binder, I am sure you will be grateful that we included it as your dealer may not have carried this fine product otherwise.

Boot Procedure

Turn off everything. Remove any cartridges from your computer. Now turn on the interface, (if you have one), disk drive, and printer. If you have an Atari 800XL hold down the OPTION button while booting.

The program will begin by asking you what type of printer you are using. Answer the prompt to select your printer.

If the program does not run, double check everything and try again.

Main Menu

The main menu provides you with a choice of options.

OPTION 1 allows you to convert a character set from the Atari resident character set to a printer font. You may use any character set editor to create your fonts.

OPTION 2 lets you print a file using the special lister. You may list out most Atari (TM) DOS Compatible files such as Word Processing or BASIC programs in listed format.

OPTION 3 dumps a graphics screen. (Screens created with Micro Painter, Koalapad, or graphics created by custom programs).

HINTS

If at any time you want to exit a part of MegaFont II or have problems, press ESCAPE and you will be back at the main menu.

When you are asked for a filename, you can get a directory of the disk by pressing RETURN. You will then be asked for the drive number. Type in the number of the drive you want the directory for and press RETURN. You will then have the option of printing out the directory.

OPTION 1: CONVERT A CHARACTER SET

This option begins by asking you for the file in which the original character set is stored. This is the character set that you have created using a character set editor.

The program will then begin to convert the character set font into a format suitable for your printer. Don't worry when the screen goes blank, this speeds the process of converting the character set. The screen will return in 90 seconds.

When the conversion is finished, the program will then prompt you for a filename where you want to store the newly created character set. Adding a filename extension of .EPS, .PRO, or .NEC will help you remember which printer the character set is for.

NOTE: Epson character sets will not be compatible with Prowriter or NEC character sets.

NOTE: There are programs available in the public domain for altering the Atari character set. A good one is "Create-A-Font" by Vince Erceg which was published in A.N.A.L.O.G., February 1984. Several commercial programs are also available.

OPTION 2: SPECIAL LISTER

A menu displaying the options for listing files and their default values will appear. To change an option value, type in the menu number.

1) CHARACTER SET: This is the converted character set you would like to use from the ones you have created using Option 1 or one that is already on the disk.

2) CHARACTER SIZE: This is the size of the character you want to use. This controls the number of characters that are printed per inch.

3) LINE SPACING: This is the number of blank lines between printed lines. For example, line spacing of 1 is like single-spacing on a typewriter.

4) PAGINATION: This controls whether printing is continuous or formatted for single sheets.

5) BOLDFACE: This controls whether the printer double-strikes each character when printing. You may want to use boldface if your ribbon is light or for emphasis. (NOTE: The EPSON version does not have boldface due to the way the original Epson handled graphics. However, some of the Epson compatible printers can do boldface. You may be able to use this feature with MegaFont by sending the boldface control codes to your printer before booting MegaFont.)

When you are satisfied with the options, type "P" to print. You will now be prompted for the name of the file you wish to print. This is the file where you have stored your program listing or text. The program will then print your file.

NOTE: To use this option with your word processing files, after creating your letter, print it to the disk. Then run MegaFont's Special Lister option using the file you have printed to the disk. Not all word processors have the capability to print to the disk.

ATARIWRITER: Delete all of the control characters at the top of the file. Insert carriage returns every 59 characters or less. Save the file to disk.

BANK STREET WRITER: Bank Street Writer files will be mostly compatible with MegaFont II.

LETTER PERFECT: Incompatible because files are not ATARI DOS compatible. LJK has a utility which will make LETTER PERFECT files Atari DOS compatible. If you have either a Prowriter or an Epson FX-80, you can download the fonts directly to your printer. More on that later.

TEXT WIZARD: Print file to the disk. (Instead of saving files to disk (OPTION 5), use OPTION P and then D:FILENAME.)

NOTE: To get a BASIC program to list with all inverse and graphics characters, the program must be LISTed to the disk prior to using MegaFont II. List the program to your disk using LIST "D:FILENAME.EXT" from BASIC.

KEYBOARD FEATURE: MegaFont II allows you to type directly to your printer. Select K: instead of D: when it asks for the filename. You may now type directly to your printer. Type CONTROL 3 when you're done.

OPTION 3: GRAPHICS DUMPER

This option allows you to dump Graphics 7+ and 8 screens that you have created to the printer.

First, you have a choice of printing the picture in Inverse or Normal mode. Inverse causes each point on the screen to reverse color, i.e. light becomes dark and vice versa.

Now you can select the size of the picture to be printed. A quarter page picture will take about 3.5 minutes to print, a half page 5 minutes and a full page 8 minutes. (These are approximate times for the Prowriter). The full page picture prints sideways and is

slightly larger than an 8-1/2 x 11 page. The next prompt is for boldface print (Not available on the EPSON version. See note in OPTION 2). To get a darker picture, press "Y", otherwise press "N" and then RETURN.

Now it's time to select the picture you want to print. There are some pictures on the MegaFont disk you may want to try. Make sure your printer is on before loading the picture. Type in the filename and then RETURN. The picture will first appear on the screen and then begin to print.

XLENT SOFTWARE REPLACEMENT POLICY

This package is warrantied for 90 days from the date of purchase. If it is defective, please return it to us and we will replace it. To obtain a backup copy, please send $5.00 and the serial number of your disk. The $5.00 is to cover the cost of media and shipping. For those outside the U.S. and Canada, please include additional funds to cover postage.

Problems Printing?: If you do have problems, and we hope you don't, please send us a copy of your problem and an explanation of when it occurred. Please include information on your system.

Acknowledgements: Many thanks to Mark Whiteside and Jennifer Brabson for their artwork. If you would like more of their original electronic masterpieces (suitable for printing) send us $10.00. For $20.00 we will send you three disks full of pictures. Please add $2.00 for shipping and handling.

We welcome any written comments or suggestions that will help us provide you with the software you want.

This program was produced using copyrighted software products of Monarch Data Systems, Cochituate, MA 01778.

This documentation was printed using ATARIWRITER, MegaFont and a Prowriter.

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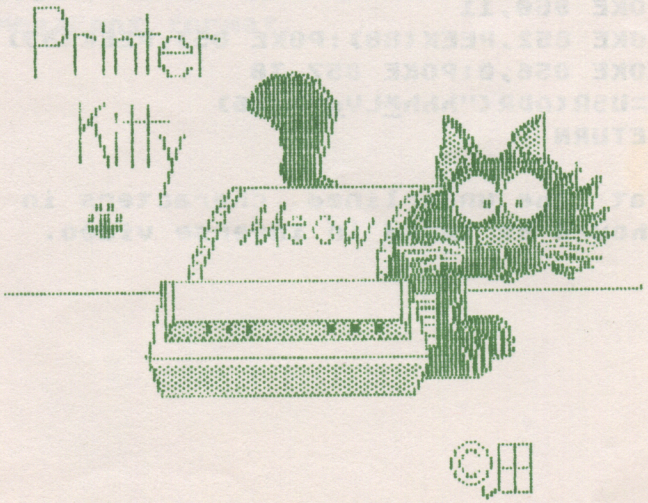


APPENDIX A

If you've written a BASIC program that creates a graphics 8 screen, the following code will let you save it to a disk file. This file can then be printed with MegaFont II's Graphics Dumper.

```
GRAPHICS 24
20 REM CREATE SCREEN
30 REM  THIS IS YOUR BASIC PROGRAM
.
.
.
8990 REM INSERT SAVE ROUTINE WHEN YOU WANT TO
SAVE THE SCREEN
8995 REM  THIS  IS PROBABLY WHERE  YOU HAVE  A
CONTINUOUS LOOP TO HOLD THE SCREEN FOR VIEWING
9000 GOSUB 32000
9010 END


31990 REM SCREEN SAVE ROUTINE
32000 OPEN #1,8,0,"D:FILENAME.EXT"
32010 POKE 850,11
32020 POKE 852,PEEK(88):POKE 853,PEEK(89)
32030 POKE 856,0:POKE 857,30
32040 X=USR(ADR("hhh*LVd"),16)
32050 RETURN
```

Note that the underlined characters in line 32040 should be typed in inverse video.

APPENDIX B

Koalapad Instructions

While in the Micro Illustrator program and you're ready to save a picture, press [INSERT] while the picture is displayed (not the icon menu). The picture will then be saved to your disk in a file named PICTURE. This filename will not appear on your Micro Illustrator directory. This file is compatible with MegaFont II. This information appeared in the April 1984 issue of ANTIC magazine.

If you get tired of having a lot of disks with files named PICTURE, we have a converter program available. This program will convert Koalapad compressed files to standard files and vice versa. This disk is only $10.00 plus $2.00 for shipping and handling. If you own a Koalapad, We highly recommend you purchase our converter disk.

If you own an 800XL, you will need to use the Translator when saving Koalapad pictures in the MegaFont format.

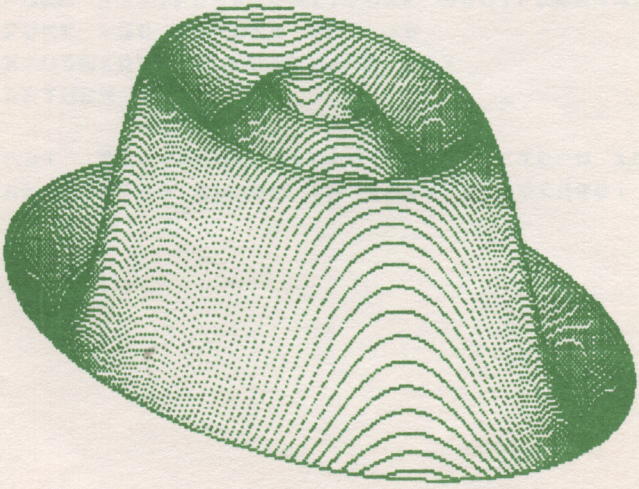
APPENDIX C

For Prowriter owners only...

You can regain the speed of your Prowriter when listing files with the addition of a chip to your printer. This chip adds more memory to your Prowriter and gives you the capability to download character sets from MegaFont into your Prowriter. The Chip Kit includes the memory chip, installation instructions, download program and more fonts. Only $19.95 plus $2.00 for shipping and handling

For Epson FX-80 owners only...

We will have a download program available for your printer. Please write us for more information.



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NOTES

Type of Program
Printer Utility

Equipment Needed:

Atari Computer with 48K of memory
Disk Drive
Prowriter, NEC, Epson w/Graftrax, Gemini, Riteman or other compatible printer.

MegaFont II allows you to do the following:

1. Convert a character set created with a character set editor to a format that can be used with your printer. Several converted fonts are included on disk.

2. Print text files using the special character sets created.

3. Print program listings with the Inverse and Graphics characters, including redefined character sets.

4. Dump Graphics 7+ and 8 screens in one fourth, on half and full page size to the printer in inverse or normal mode.

5. Type directly to your printer in any of several fonts.

6. List programs on seperate sheets of paper.

"MegaFont is the best value you can get..."
Creative Computing, February 1984

MegaFont received an overall rating of "A" in The Atari Book of Software 1984.

MegaFont II is even better!